## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR ABEL MALDONADO

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## Lieutenant Governor Abel Maldonado Honored For Supporting Active Duty National Guardsman

Today, Lt. Governor Abel Maldonado was honored with two awards, the Patriot Award and the Above and Beyond Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), for actively supporting one of his district representatives during his deployment to active duty for the California Army National Guard.

"Our service men and women put their lives on the line so that we all can enjoy the wonderful opportunities this great nation provides," said Lt. Governor Maldonado. "They deserve our gratitude, and every supportive resource we can offer as employers and as fellow Californians."

California Army National Guard 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Rito Guerra, nominated the Lt. Governor for providing flexibility with his schedule, and continuing his salary and benefits while he was deployed. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Guerra worked for Lt. Governor Maldonado as a field representative for the 15<sup>th</sup> District while the Lt. Governor served in the California State Senate.

"On behalf of the California National Guard, I would like to thank Lt. Governor Abel Maldonado for his support," said Brig. Gen. Mary J. Kight, the Adjutant General of the California National Guard. "In this day and age of constant deployments, our service-members depend on this type of assistance from our civilian leaders and we thank Lt. Governor Maldonado for working to ensure deployed reservists receive their entitlements secured by the law."

The Patriot and Above and Beyond Awards are granted to civilian employers who are supportive of their National Guard or Reservist employees.

ESGR is a Department of Defense (DoD) organization that was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between Reserve members and their civilian employers while they navigate an employee's military commitment. Today, ESGR operates through a network of thousands of volunteers throughout the nation, Guam, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.



(From Right To Left) Lt. Governor Abel Maldonado receiving the ESGR's Patriot and Above and Beyond Award from California Army National Guard 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Rito Guerra and ESGR Vice Chair Region One for ESGR Robert Anderson.

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